

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 11652, SEC. 3(E), 5(D), 5(F) AND 11

H. S. Gichin (W-78-26)
BY mm NAB, DATE 5/13/78

August 29, 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE PRESIDENT

A few additional details -- which did not seem important at the time I wrote the original memorandum -- about the encounter with Che.

1. Throughout the Conference the Brazilians and, to a lesser extent, the Argentines had tried to arrange a social confrontation with Che. I had consistently refused such a pre-arranged meeting; the last refusal being to attend a final party on the last night of the Conference.
2. On the night before we left I went to Montevideo (as did most of the rest of the delegation). I had not planned to go to Montevideo and decided to do so only at the last moment. I arrived at the hotel, and had dinner with Dixon Donnelly (press man for the Treasury) and Dillon's Secretary.
3. While we were finishing dinner a few acquaintances (a young member of the Argentine delegation and a couple of Brazilian newspapermen, along with a couple of blondes) asked me if I wanted to come along with them to a near-by ^{brithen} party for a friend of theirs. I said I would.
4. On leaving I remarked kiddingly to the Argentine, "you're sure Che won't be there." He took this very seriously and said, "of course not, I wouldn't do anything like that." He informed me that Che was at the Brazilian embassy talking with his Brazilian pals.
5. There were about thirty people at the party -- drinking and dancing to American music. I talked with several people and, after about an hour, I was told that Che was coming. In a few minutes he arrived. I did not go to talk to him; while all the women at the party swarmed around him. One of the Brazilians said he (Che) had something important to say to me. There then began the conversation as reported in the memo. Although there were four of us present during most of the conversation there were as many as seven present at some times and we were being interrupted by waiters and autograph seekers.
6. I took the initiative in breaking up the conversation after 20-40 minutes.

Dick Goodwin